WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A notes service for a computer application, comprising:

a note creation module which captures an electronic note and associates it with a context; and

5   a note storage module which stores said captured note and associated context for later retrieval.

2. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a note retrieval module which receives a query condition and retrieves

10   said captured note and associated context if said note meets said query condition.

3. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a note management module which enables a user to modify a

15   captured note.

4. The notes service of claim 1, comprising:

a collaboration function which allows a plurality of collaboration session members to synchronously view a graphical user interface of said

20   notes service.

5. A method for capturing and managing electronic notes in a computer based application, comprising:

capturing a note in a note object; and

25   associating a context with said captured note to said note object.

6. The method of claim 5, comprising:

storing said note object and said associated context in persistent storage for later retrieval.

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7. The method of claim 6, comprising:

receiving a query condition; and

retrieving said note object and said associated context if attributes of said note object meet said query condition.

8. The method of claim 5, comprising:

displaying said note captured in said note object.

9. The method of claim 8, comprising:

displaying said context associated with said note object.

10. The method of claim 5, comprising:

capturing a second note and linking said second captured note to said captured note in an hierarchical relationship.

11. The method of claim 5, comprising:

connecting to a collaboration session;

synchronously displaying a notes service graphical user interface to all members connected to said collaboration session.

12. The method of claim 11, comprising:

locking said note to prevent other members of said collaboration session from changing said note.

13. A computer readable storage medium tangibly embodying program instructions implementing a method for capturing and managing electronic notes in a computer based application, the method comprising the steps of:

capturing a note in a note object; and

associating a context with said captured note to said note object.

14. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method comprising:

storing said note object and said associated context in persistent storage for later retrieval.

15. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method comprising:

receiving a query condition; and

retrieving said note object and said associated context if attributes of said note object meet said query condition.

16. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method comprising:

displaying said note captured in said note object.

17. The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, the method comprising:

displaying said context associated with said note object.

18. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method comprising:

capturing a second note and linking said second captured note to said captured note in an hierarchical relationship.

19. The computer readable storage medium of claim 13, the method comprising:

connecting to a collaboration session;

synchronously displaying a notes service graphical user interface to all members connected to said collaboration session.

20. The computer readable storage medium of claim 19, the method comprising:

locking said note to prevent other members of said collaboration session from changing said note.